

Dear Pahokee residents and taxpayers,

On April 9th during the City Commission meeting, under my comments, I indicated I wanted to give something back to the City, as it has been my client for ten years. I volunteered to head up an effort to clean up the old hospital and turn it into a Government Center. The audience and the Commission loved the idea and unanimously, by motion, authorized me to proceed. My one condition; Chandler could not be involved- for obvious reasons!

The Plan—all free of charge and volunteers only.  
Get all professional services donated.  
Get the cost of the project paid by others who have benefited from Pahokee (No, not Football players, who are asked to do everything)  
House all city business in the one location and rent out extra space to other agencies. The project to be paid for up front with donations and grants so all rent could be used by the City for other purposes.

Two weeks later;  
Volunteers came forward;  
8 man crew working 10 hr. days, 7 days a week,  
cleaning out the old hospital and hauling away the

garbage, in huge dump trucks, to make it ready for renovation.

The S/O cleaned out the addicts who had made the structure their home and outhouse.

The very best Planner and landscape Architect, who works worldwide, donated the design for a Memory Garden and water fountain.

The most recognized and celebrated Architect in Palm Beach County, with respect to historical renovations, produced preliminary elevations (Copy attached).

A renowned Engineering firm, who specializes in Municipal work, donated a survey.

An Engineer and scheduling specialist produced the 1st draft scheduling for the project.

In two weeks, more progress than has been made in 20 years.

What happened?

The Commission terminated my contract!

Why?

Commissioner Everett indicated he did not like E. Perez donating his time, money and effort. Cheered on by Chandler, he did not want someone who was suing the City to donate anything. Chandler forgot to mention to Benny, that Perez's Company is one of two demolition companies under contract with the City. The Company

was hired by Chandler, and is currently doing work for the City, (Not the real reason).

Commissioner Murvin, I do not believe she wants anyone to know that she passes the wreck at the old Hospital every day, complains about it all the time, but does nothing! (She wants everyone to come together). It is city property; perhaps she should have thought about asking the City manager to do his job and clean it up. (Again not the real reason).

Commissioner Babb;  
20+ years on the Commission and everyone is still waiting for Keith to do something, except talk about all the great things he is going to do. Perhaps it was his trip with the City Manager to Las Vegas, with the taxpayer's Money. (Still waiting for the real reason?)

The Real Reason;  
I had placed on the agenda, a report, and distributed it to the Commissions and IG the day before the meeting, showing at least 20 examples of, in my opinion, Gross Negligence and incompetence with the use of tax dollars. I recommended the City ask the Inspector General to do a complete audit of the City Procurement Process and requested the Commission consider agreeing with the recommendations made by the IG regarding issues outlined in his recent report (you will learn more about this in days to come).

The City Manager had to find a way to keep this out of the public, so he looked to Babb, Everett and Murvin for help and got it.

But we all know that the TRUTH always comes out. The TRUTH will set you Free.

It sure set me free!

Pahokee is now in my rear view mirror.

I do not believe, the once beautiful and thriving City, will ever improve until the residents stop this disaster.

They work for you, you do not work for them!

This has nothing to do “with a divided City that has to come together” (we have been hearing that for ten years) this is about basic competence.

Gary B.

